PATENT Ser. No. 09/232,498 Atty. Docket No. 10517/16



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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116 -EXPEDITED PROCEDURE --**EXAMINING GROUP 1745**

<u>IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</u>

Inventor

Seiji MIZUNO

Serial No.

09/232,498

Filed

January 15, 1999

For

SEPARATOR FOR FUEL CELL AND

MANUFACTURING METHOD FOR THE SAME

1745

M. RUTHKOSKY

RECEIVED

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Washington D.C. 20231

TC 1700

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Madame:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed June 6, 2002, the Applicant respectfully submits the following amendments and remarks. The Applicant respectfully asserts that the Requested Amendments shown below should be entered because they place the application in condition for allowance and do not raise new issues.

REQUESTED AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Thrice amended) A method of manufacturing a separator for a fuel cell comprising:

preparing a raw material by mixing a carbon, an epoxy resin and a phenolic resin, wherein said phenolic resin is different from said epoxy resin, and further wherein a ratio of an amount of an epoxy group of said epoxy resin to an amount of a hydroxyl group of said phenolic resin in the raw material is adjusted to a value ranging from 0.8 to 1.2 such that generation of a reaction byproduct gas is minimized;